Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4615

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: PMAC REACTION TO STUDENT UNREST

1. ETHIOPIAN NEWSPAPERS OF MAY 28 CARRY FRONT PAGE ANNOUNCEMENT ENTITLED "STUDENTS WARNED TO RESUME CLASSES." ARTICLE IS SHORTENED AND SOFTENED VERSION OF AMHARIC MAY 27 RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT, GIST OF WHICH FOLLOWS (FSL TRANSLATION):

ONE REASON FOR ETHIOPIA'S BACKWARDNESS IS THAT EDUCATION DID NOT REACH THE CHILDREN OF THE MASSES BUT WAS GIVEN ONLY TO THOSE OF ARISTOCRATS. NOW THOSE PRIVILEGED FEW ARE INCITING STUDENT UNREST AND OPPOSING THE CURRENT POPULAR MOVEMENT. THE STUDENTS OF THE MASSES, THEREFORE, HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY AND THE OBLIGATION TO REVEAL THE NAMES OF THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE INCITING DISTURBANCES. ALTHOUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE EDUCATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CLASS WORKING IN THE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT THE CURRENT REVOLUTION,

THERE ARE CERTAIN REACTIONARIES AMONG THE EDUCATED CLASS WHO OPPOSE IT. THIS REACTIONARY EDUCATED CLASS WILL BE RE-ORIENTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE THROUGH THE "CULTURAL REVOLUTION" OF THE SINGLE POLITICAL PARTY BEING PLANNED. IF, AFTER THIS RE-ORIENTATION, THEY HAVE NOT ABANDONED THEIR REACTIONARY ATTITUDES, THEY WILL BE REPLACED BY PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS. IN ADDITION TO OPENING A SCHOOL ON "ETHIOPIA TIKDEM" IN THE FUTURE TO RE-ORIENT THESE REACTIONARIES, A NEW POLICY IS UNDER CONSIDERATION THAT WILL ABOLISH THE FEUDAL ORDER AND REPLACE IT WITH A SOCIALIST ORDER.

- 2. THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY PMAC TO THOSE STUDENTS WHO CREATE UNREST:
- A. NINTH AND TENTH GRADE STUDENTS WHO ARE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL DUE TO PRESSURE FROM REACTIONARY STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO RESUME STUDY IN SCHOOLS AS OF JUNE 2 TO PASS THEIR EXAMINATIONS.
- B. SCHOOL DIRECTORS AND TEACHERS ARE TO SUBMIT NAMES OF STUDENT TRUANTS TO MINED.
- C. MINED SHOULD SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO SCHOOLS CONCERNED TO ENSURE THAT PMAC DIRECTIVES ARE IMPLEMENTED AND A LIST OF TRUANT STUDENTS' NAMES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO PMAC.
- D. STUDENTS ARE FORBIDDEN TO HOLD ILLEGAL MEETINGS IN THE SCHOOL COMPOUND
- E. STUDENTS ARE FORBIDDEN TO CARRY FIREARMS OR OTHER CONCEALED WEAPONS OR ATTEND CLASS WHILE INTOXICATED.

FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO REFUSE TO FOLLOW THE ABOVE DIRECTIVES, THE FOLLOWING MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN, WITHOUT PARDON:

- A. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE TO ATTEND THE SCHOOLS OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA.
- B. STUDENTS FOUND ROAMING THE STREETS OR IN TEA HOUSES OR BARS DURING SCHOOL HOURS WILL BE TAKEN TO "REPRIMAND CENTERS" FOR APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY MEASURES.
- C. A HEAVY PENALTY WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST ANY STUDENT, REGARDLESS OF AGE OR SEX, FOUND SPREADING ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY PROPAGANDA

COMMENT: ACCORDING TO AS YET UNCONFIRMED REPORTS -TO WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

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WE INCLINED GIVE CREDENCE-AT LEAST 65 STUDENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SHIPPED TO SENDAFA, A FEW MILES OUTSIDE ADDIS ON THE DESSIE ROAD. OF THESE, 45 ARE SAID TO HAVE BEEN PICKED UP BY SECURITY POLICE FROM THEIR HOMES LAST NIGHT (MAY 27) "ON SUSPICION OF OPPOSITION TO THE DIRG." HUMMEL.

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